Tamil Nadu. It is premature at this stage to work out the exact tariff from these reactors as it would be firmed up only after the Detailed Project Report (DPR) is ready, However, it will compare favourably with tariff from nuclear and coal thermal plants commissioned around the time when these reactors would become operational.

(c) The anticipated time over-runs of the plants under construction *viz.* Kaiga 1 & 2 and RAPP 3 & 4 are 40 months and 31 months respectively from the expected dates of criticality at the time of sanction of this revised project cost in 1992-93. These over-runs being absorbed to some extent by parallel working and crashing of down-stream activities by employing more resources and offering incentive to contractors as well as employees of the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd.

The anticipated cost over-runs in respect of kaiga 1&2 is Rs. 415 crore over and above the revised sanctioned cost of Rs. 2275 crore (1992-93) while in respect of RAPP 34 it is Rs. 161 crore over and above the revised sanctioned cost of Rs. 2107 crore (1992-93). The major reasons for time and cost over runs of these projects are as follows:—

(i) Delay in execution of civil works due to revisions in the civil drawings made according to the new guidelines issued by the regulatory authorities.

(ii) The incident of delamination on 13.5.94 in the Kaiga dome leading to the regulatory authority putting a hold on further construction of the inner containment structure and the consequent re-engineering.

(iii) Delay in release of area for mechanical and electrical works.

(iv) Delay in delivery of some of the equipment by the vendors.

(d) Yes, Sir. The adoption of Fast Breeder Technology for the generation of electricity is the second stage of the three stage strategy of our nuclear power programme which envisages the setting up of Plutonium fuelled Fast Breeder Reactors for power generation. The design and development of a 500 MWe Fast Breeder Reactor is in progress and construction is expected to commence towards the end of the Ninth Five Year Plan.

Referring of Issues pertaining to 5th Pay Commission to Fast Track Committee

*336. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the issues that stand referred to the fast track committee set-up following the 5th Pay Commission's recommendations;

(b) whether these include issues relating to revision of (i) pay scales of Section Officer/Desk Officers of CSS, and (ii) the Desk Officers, allowance;

(c) whether the Desk Officers are still drawing Desk Officers' allowance at pre-revised rates; if so, the reasons for delay in the decision; and

(d) by when a decision would be taken by Government on the issues stated in para (b) above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI R. JANARTHANA): (a) The Fast Track Committee set up vide DOP&T's order No. 2/24/97-PIC dated the 21st July, 1997 was required to consider the following exceptional cases:

(i) To examine the relativities in pay scale in respect of motorman–mail drivers and diesel assistants under the Ministry of Railways.

(ii) The demand of the Central Secretariat service to remove the intermediate pay scale in the grade of Rs. 2500—4000 (pre revised).

(iii) The demand for upgradation of pay scale at the level of Engineering Assistants under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

(iv) The demand of Senior Auditors and Accountants of various Accounts Organisations in respect of their pay scales.

(v) The demand of JTOs and Assistant Engineers of Telecom Department.

(vi) The demand of DANICS and DANIPS to accept the recommendation of the Fifth Central Pay Commission.

(b) The issue of pay scale of Section Officers though specifically not referred to the Fast Track Committee was considered by the Committee while examining the demand of DANICS and DANIPS to accept the recommendations of the Fifth Central Pay Commission. The issue of grant of Desk Allowance to Desk Officers of CSS was considered by the Fast Track Committee while examining the demand of Central Secretariat service to remove the intermediate pay scale in the grade of Rs. 2500—4000 (pre-revised).

(c) Yes, Sir. The Desk Officers are still drawing allowance at pre-revised rates. A decision has been delayed on account of completion of necessary formalities.

(d) These issues are under consideration of the Government but an indication of the time likely to be taken in deciding them does not seem feasible.

Flood situation in the Country

*337. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed the flood situation during 1997;

(b) if so, the details of the States badly affected as a result thereof;

(c) whether Government have received Memoranda from the State Governments on the floods;

(d) if so, the details, State-wise;

(e) the assistance released, so far, as relief measures/compensation etc., State-wise; and

(f) the steps taken by Government to brave such situation in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (f) According to the reports received from the State Governments, the States of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal were affected by heavy rains and floods during 1997 in varying degree.

The State Governments are required to undertake relief operations in the wake of natural calamities like floods, out of the corpus of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) which is contributed to by the Central Government and State Governments in the ratio of 3:1. Additional assistante is provided from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) to the States in the wake of calamities of rare severity.

A statement indicating the details of assistance sought by the affected State Governments from the NFCR in the wake of floods during 1997 and funds released is enclosed as Statement-I (*See* below).

In addition to the financial assistance for relief and rehabilitation to the State Governments, the Government of India also takes the following measures to mitigate the impact of natural calamities including floods:—

(i) Flood control measures like construction of reservoirs and